

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
December 12, 2011
6:00 p.m.**

BE IT KNOWN that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District was called in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on December 12, 2011, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Janet Jones, Secretary
Doris Rogé, Member
Mark Swafford, Member
Billy Giddens, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member
C. D. Brazzel, Jr., Member

Absent was:

Adolph Sklar, Jr. Member

Also present were:

Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer
Robert Vercher, Maintenance Superintendent

The meeting was called to order by the President, Karlton Methvin. A Motion was made by C. D. Brazzel, Jr. and seconded by Doris Rogé to supplement the agenda by adding thereto the following item:

- A. Resolution authorizing Ronald Corkern to pay the dues for membership in the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana.

The Motion to supplement the agenda passed unanimously.

The minutes from the November 8, 2011 meeting were reviewed. On Motion by Mark Swafford, seconded by Rayburn Smith, the November minutes were unanimously approved.

The November, 2011 Financial Statement was not available for review. The members reviewed and discussed the check register. Before the next meeting Mr. Corkern will provide the Board with both the November and December financial statements and they would be submitted for approval at the January meeting.

The maintenance report was given by Robert Vercher. Mr. Vercher advised that they were finishing up cleaning the fence row at Melrose, and following that they would move to Russell Cook's old place and begin cleaning. He also advised that he was having problems with the trackhoe. There was further discussion among the Board members regarding the problems with the trackhoe and Karlton Methvin advised that he would look into these problems further.

Mr. Vercher advised that it was time to inspect the levees again and report to the Corps of Engineers. Brad Sticker will help with our levee inspections. Finally, Mr. Vercher requested the Board authorize issuance of paychecks early (December 21, 2011) so the employees would be able to cash their checks before Christmas. The Board authorized Corkern to instruct our accountant to issue paychecks on December 21.

The DOTD report was given by Brad Sticker. Mr. Sticker advised that he had received a revised quote, which included shipping, for the three lift nuts necessary to provide a temporary fix for the Hampton Flood Gates. The total cost will be \$1,650.00. He also advised that the preliminary estimate for permanent repairs to the Hampton Flood Gates was \$110,000.00, with a 20% contingency fee.

In other business, Mr. Sticker advised that he was going to schedule a couple of days in January to ride all of the levees with Robert and/or one of our other employees for the purpose of putting all of our inspection reports on computer. The Corps of Engineers started this about three years ago.

Mr. Sticker also advised that the Corps of Engineers is contemplating a new permitting system. It will be a two-tier system. All of the details have not been ironed out, but apparently tier one will be permitted by the individual levee districts, while the tier two will still be permitted by the Corps of Engineers. The definition of tier one and tier two is still to be worked out, but tier one will include only minor repairs.

Finally, Mr. Sticker advised that he intended to work on compiling an inventory of all the pipes in our levee system, so

that we could then make a request to the Corps of Engineers to make a video inspection of our pipes.

Karlton Methvin advised that he had attended the Annual Meeting of the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana in New Orleans. Once again, the agenda and primary focus was on levees off of I-10.

Methvin also advised that he had received an email from Mike Schiflet the engineer we had hired to assist us with preparing a plan for levee certification. Mr. Schiflet advised that FEMA has still not finalized its new criteria for levee certification. That will probably occur some time next spring. Until they make that determination they will probably not rule on our request that we be allowed to submit for certification the levees in the Campti-Clarence area and not submit for certification the levees in the Cloutierville area.

Under new business, the Board reviewed the performance report prepared by Robert Vercher relative to Billy Dunn. On motion by Doris Rogé, seconded by Janet Jones, the Board voted unanimously to approve the RRP Form prepared by Mr. Vercher.

In other business, a motion was made by Doris Rogé, and seconded by Rayburn Smith, to authorize Corkern to purchase the three lift nuts necessary to make temporary repairs to the Hampton Flood Gates. This motion passed unanimously.

In other business, Corkern advised the Board that he had received a call from Leslie Ramien requesting the Board assistance with grading or doing some work on the levee road known as Miller Farm Road on upper Cane River. She indicated that this road was in very poor condition, as was the road leading up to the levee. Corkern advised that the road leading up to the levee would be a Police Jury road and that she would have to contact the Police Jury regarding work on that road.

Robert Vercher informed the Board that all we had was a bulldozer, and although we could use the blade to smooth the road out to some extent, it was difficult, if not impossible, to direct the dirt and rock in a specific direction. He stated that in order to repair the road correctly we needed to put a grader on it. Karlton Methvin advised that he would speak with Earl Townsend since the Police Jury has a motor grader and would ask Earl to grade the top of the levee whenever they graded the rest of the roadway.

A motion was made by C. D. Brazzel, Jr., seconded by Mark Swafford, to approve the payment of annual dues to the

Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana. This motion was passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Janet Jones, seconded by Doris Rogé, to adjourn. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the Motion.

Approved on the 12th day of January, 2012, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

RONALD E. CORKERN, JR.,
Attorney/Assistant Secretary